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#### COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

### STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, DECEMBER 28, 2000

APPLICATION OF

VERIZON VIRGINIA INC.

CASE NO. PUC000277

To implement extended local service from the Chatham Exchange to the Whitmell Exchange

## ORDER PRESCRIBING NOTICE

On October 17, 2000, Verizon Virginia Inc. ("Verizon Virginia" or "the Company"), filed an application with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") pursuant to Section 56-484.2 of the Code of Virginia ("Code"). Verizon Virginia proposes to notify its customers in the Chatham Exchange of the increases in monthly rates that would be necessary to expand their local service to include Sprint/Centel's ("Centel") Whitmell Exchange.

The application states that, on January 31, 2000, telephone customers in the Whitmell Exchange petitioned the Commission for local calling to the Chatham Exchange. Using a cost study prepared by Centel, the Commission determined the increase in monthly rates for service that would result from this expansion. Customers were polled regarding their willingness to pay the increased rates for local calling to the Chatham Exchange. The majority of those responding supported the proposal.

Cost studies now have been conducted to determine the monthly rates for extended local service from the Chatham Exchange to the Whitmell Exchange. Because the resulting rate increase for one-party residential customers does not exceed five percent of the existing monthly one-party residential flat rate for the Chatham Exchange, a poll of these customers is not required pursuant to Section 56-484.2 of the Code.

NOW, having considered the Company's application, the Company's proposed public notice, and applicable law, the Commission is of the opinion that this matter should be docketed; that Verizon Virginia should give notice of this application to its customers in the Chatham Exchange; and that those customers should be permitted to file comments and requests for hearing.

Accordingly, IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- (1) This matter is docketed and assigned Case No. PUC000277.
- (2) On or before February 2, 2001 Verizon Virginia shall publish the following notice in the Chatham Exchange twice as display advertising (not classified advertising) in newspapers of general circulation in that exchange as follows:

NOTICE THAT VERIZON VIRGINIA, INC.,
PROPOSES TO EXPAND THE LOCAL SERVICE AREA
OF THE CHATHAM EXCHANGE TO INCLUDE THE

# WHITMELL EXCHANGE OF SPRINT/CENTEL INC. CASE NO. PUC000277

Telephone customers in Sprint/Centel's ("Centel") Whitmell Exchange have petitioned the Virginia State Corporation Commission ("Commission") for local calling to Verizon Virginia Inc.'s ("Verizon Virginia") (formerly Bell Atlantic-Virginia) Chatham Exchange (telephone numbers beginning with 804-432,433). Subscribers in the Whitmell Exchange were polled regarding their willingness to pay an increase in monthly rates for local calling to the Chatham Exchange. The majority of those customers responding in the Whitmell Exchange supported this expansion of local service.

Based on Verizon Virginia's costs, the Commission determined the increase in monthly rates for local service for customers in the Chatham Exchange to call the Whitmell Exchange (telephone numbers beginning with 804-724). The monthly rates would increase as follows: flat rate residential service, \$0.39; residential message rate service, \$0.26; residential measured rate service, \$0.25; residential economy message service, \$0.15; residential economy measured service, \$0.15; residential exchange only service, \$0.61; business flat rate service, \$1.40; business message rate lines or trunks, \$0.36; business measured rate lines or trunks, \$0.12 and flat rate PBX trunks, \$2.18.

Customers whose rates are not listed above or who desire more information on this proposed change should contact Verizon Virginia's customer service center.

Residential customers should call 954-6222; businesses should call 954-6888. Copies of Verizon Virginia's application may be obtained by contacting Verizon Virginia's customer service center at the telephone numbers listed above. Copies may also be reviewed at the Commission's Document

Control Center located on the first floor of the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219.

Customers wishing to comment on the proposed change to their local calling area or to request a hearing on the application may do so by filing such requests or comments in writing, with the Clerk of the Commission, Joel H. Peck, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218, on or before March 2, 2001. Any such filing should refer to Case No. PUC000277.

The Commission shall convene a hearing on the proposed extension of the local calling area if at least the lesser of five (5) percent or one hundred and fifty (150) of the customers within the Chatham Exchange request a hearing, otherwise the Commission may consider the application without convening a hearing.

### VERIZON VIRGINIA INC.

- (3) On or before March 2, 2001, Verizon Virginia shall provide proof of notice required herein.
- (4) A copy of this Order and the application shall be made available for public inspection at the Commission's Document Control Center located on the first floor of the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, from 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. A copy of the application also shall be furnished by the Verizon Virginia Customer Service Center upon customer request.
- (5) On or before March 2, 2001, Verizon Virginia customers who are affected by this proposal may file with the Clerk of the

Commission written comments or requests for hearing about this application. Any corporation shall be represented by counsel in accordance with Rule 4:8 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure and shall file an original and fifteen (15) copies of any comment or request for hearing on or before that deadline. Individuals may file single copies. All comments or requests for hearing shall be filed with Joel H. Peck, Clerk, State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218, and shall refer to Case No. PUC000277.

- (6) On or before March 9, 2001, the Division of Communications shall file a report with the Commission on the comments received.
- (7) The Commission shall convene a hearing on the proposed extension of local calling area if at least the lesser of five percent or one hundred and fifty (150) of the Chatham Exchange customers request a hearing; otherwise, the Commission may consider Verizon Virginia's application without convening a hearing.